RICE KRISPIES GET AN EASTER TWIST
TAKE A BITE OUT OF THIS BUNNY {page 15}

ON BOARD
COWELL EXPECTS MIMI ON TV
DISH {page 14}

VANCOUVER metro®
Wednesday, April 20, 2011
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City flushes mega-casino

Expansion plans included 1,200 slots, 2 hotels, 150 gaming tables

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

Vancouver will not roll the dice on expanded gambling.

City council sent that message loud and clear yesterday by not only unanimously voting down Paragon and PavCo's proposed mega-casino expansion of Edgewater at B.C. Place, but by putting a moratorium on all casino expansion in the city.

"I personally do not believe the expansion of gambling is the right move for the future of Vancouver," said Mayor Gregor Robertson to the applause of dozens who fought tooth and nail to oppose the $500-million project.

Robertson's comments were perhaps the most neutral among council, as others openly objected to increasing gambling and fumed at the province for forcing the plans down their throat.

"This application came from the province, this is not our doing," said Coun. Raymond Louie.

HANDOUT/METRO FILE

▶ The proposed $500-million Edgewater Casino.

"In some ways I'm so annoyed by this, because it has so distracted us from what we've wanted to do as a city," said Coun. Tim Stevenson.

Coun. David Cadman said the city has sent a strong message: "We're not interested in seeing future applications. That's the end of it."

Council did allow for Paragon to move Edgewater, at the same size it exists today, to the proposed development, but the gaming company's president, Scott Menke, said they need time to review the city's decision.

"We are certainly disappointed in today's outcome, but stand committed to our employees and supporters," he said. "It's going to take some time for all of us to go back and digest this."

Sandy Garossino, of the Vancouver Not Vegas coalition that sprung up in opposition to the expansion, said she was relieved by council's decision.

"This city has already gone through enormous public debate and turmoil over gambling," she said. "It is really time for us all to look at what is the role of casinos and lottery revenues, to what extent we're relying on addiction."

Paragon had said the expanded casino would bring in $275 million a year in revenues.

Blown. Out

▶ Vancouver Canuck Sami Salo and Chicago Blackhawk Patrick Sharp vie for the puck in Game 4 of their first-round series yesterday. The Hawks won 7-2 to avoid being swept out of the playoffs. Story, page 22.

NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks can't finish

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Mountie charged in casino theft

An RCMP officer has been charged with theft after allegedly snatching a $400 cash ticket left behind at a machine by another guest at the River Rock Casino.

Const. Nick Sharma, a member of the combined forces special enforcement unit, was off duty at the time.

He's expected to make his next court appearance in Richmond Provincial Court on May 19.

Sharma is also facing an RCMP internal investigation and has been placed on administrative duties.

KRISTEN THOMPSON

FILE

Teen fights with brass knuckles: RCMP

A 16-year-old Kelowna girl is facing charges after allegedly hitting another girl with brass knuckles, police said. The incident happened outside a convenience store on Monday night. Brass knuckles are illegal. KRISTEN THOMPSON

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO

▶ Justin Trudeau, right, along with Ujjal Dosanjh and Joyce Murray at Waterfront Station in Vancouver yesterday.

Trudeau stumps on Canada Line

Justin Trudeau drumming up support for Liberal party ◐ The son of former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau is a Liberal MP in Quebec

KRISTEN THOMPSON
@METRONEWS.CA

Justin Trudeau attracted a crowd of reporters and bystanders when he arrived at Waterfront Station yesterday to talk about the two things on most Canadians' minds right now — politics and hockey.

Trudeau, MP for the Montreal riding of Papineau and former teacher at Vancouver's West Point Grey Academy, rode the Canada Line from the airport with local Liberal candidates Ujjal Dosanjh and Hedy Fry, among others.

He said the party is cognizant of the fact that it needs to attract young voters, adding candidates are using social media to connect with that demographic.

"We want to get the younger generation involved and they have the power to determine the direction this country takes with their votes," Trudeau said.

When asked if he had plans to become Liberal leader himself, he simply replied, "Michael Ignatieff is going to make an extraordinary prime minister."

"People are going to realize if you vote (for another party) you may be able to get a minority government, but if you vote Liberal, you get rid of (Stephen Harper) altogether," Trudeau said.

When talk turned to hockey, he admitted he's proud of how well the Canucks are doing, but if it came down to a Vancouver-Montreal final, he'd have to root for the Habs.

1 news

It may surprise you that Japan must reach out to U.S. for robot help in its nuclear disaster. Scan code for story.

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LAURA FORTEY/FOR METRO

▶ Flashback: Participants take part in last year's 4/20 rally outside the Vancouver Art Gallery.

See that cloud of smoke? It's the annual pot rally

Today's 4/20 gathering will be the first without Marc Emery He's in jail for selling seeds online

KRISTEN THOMPSON
@METRONEWS.CA

Smoke, toke, hit, turn.

Whatever you like to call it, more than 10,000 people will be doing it at the Vancouver Art Gallery this afternoon.

It's the annual 4/20 rally celebrating marijuana culture.

Jacob Hunter, rally organizer and spokesperson, said this year's event will have a particularly political tone considering how close it is to the federal election.

When, where

- The event takes place at the Vancouver Art Gallery and the adjacent block of Howe Street from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- If you can't find it, look for the cloud of smoke.

"Stephen Harper's obsession with throwing peaceful cannabis users in jail paints a clear picture of our options May 2," he said.

"Our mission (today) is to tell the thousands in attendance to ... return Canada to a path of progressive, rational and scientific policy on drugs under a new government."

Hunter added the City of Vancouver has been very supportive of the event.

Students in limbo as broadcast school shuts

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Matthew Hunt and his fiancée, Kristin Melsted

An ex-army reservist packed his bags and left everything he had in Nanaimo, together with his fiancée, to study at a Vancouver broadcasting school.

But Matthew Hunt was shocked to find out that Columbia Academy, in operation for almost 45 years, is shutting down.

"It's absolutely devastating," said Hunt.

"I didn't get any official report. I had to find out from my parents who listened to (the radio)."

Hunt said he enrolled and got accepted while he was in Afghanistan. He even got a $7,500 scholarship from the school.

"It's been tough to deal with, but you've got to start moving forward and moving on," Hunt said.

The private broadcast school, which has sparked the careers of Rogers Sportsnet anchor Brad Fay and World Beats host Vanesa Tomasino, is closing its doors because of personal financial difficulties of the new owner who took over in October, 2010, said Gord Peters, director of operations.

Peters stressed that the closure was an ownership issue. Employees, he added, tried to save the school and had kept it running since February.

"Rather than let the school close, a group of staff and instructors got together to put out some of their own money and continue operating the school while trying to purchase it," Peters said.

"We just found out (Monday) that the bank is not willing to sell the assets of the company to us because of legal complications."

Sixteen staff members will be let go and the 93 students enrolled will get refunds, Peters added.

"We, as employees, are heartbroken ... This is a family.

"We want to do the best for (the students)."

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS

He climbed a fence to freedom

RCMP are hunting for a 21-year-old inmate who escaped from the Fraser Regional Correctional Centre.

Ajit Singh climbed over a fence and made his way through a wooded area near the facility Saturday.

He was jailed for obstructing a peace officer.

METRO

Vancouver man in porn bust

A 33-year-old Vancouver man has been arrested for alleged possession of child porn.

Paul Edward Murray was arrested on Friday during a police raid on his home.

Murray has been released from jail on conditions.

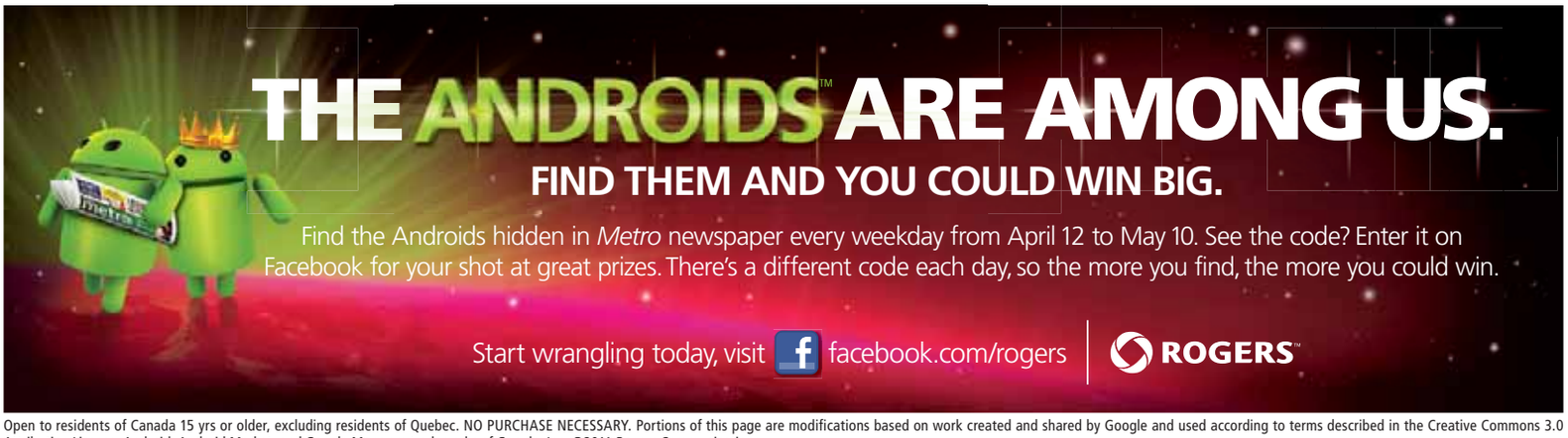
METRO

Debate heads into overtime

A controversial bylaw to bar protest structures on city land was debated at city council late into last night.

By press time, the council had yet to vote on the bylaw or decide to seek an extension ahead of the midnight deadline.

METRO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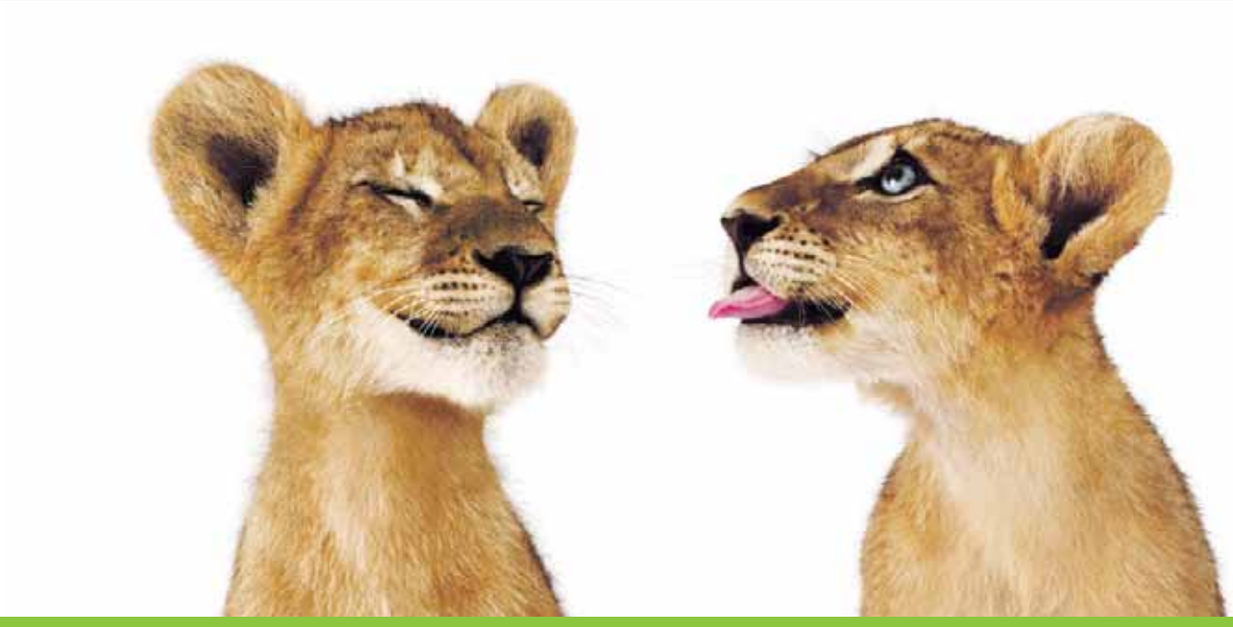

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Dial M for misbehaving

Liberal candidate says pranksters calling constituents ◗ Doesn't fault Greens or NDP

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

Election 2011

A former MP battling to regain his seat in a hotly contested Winnipeg riding says unknown imposters are calling voters on behalf of the party and being rude in order to turn them off voting Liberal in the upcoming federal election.

Liberal Candidate Ray Simard said yesterday he was out door-knocking in the St. Boniface riding Monday afternoon and was told by constituents they had been contacted by someone representing the Liberals.

Simard said similar calls have been happening to Liberal candidates in at least eight other ridings.

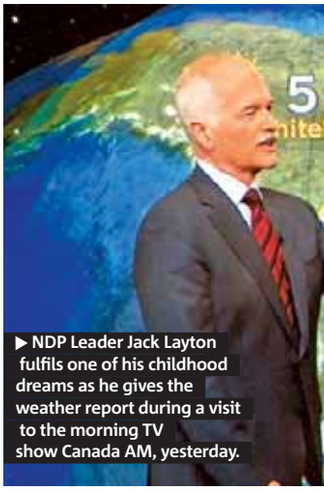
He suggested the calls may be orchestrated by the Conservatives, but admitted he had no proof. "It's part of the way these guys do business," he told Metro.

A spokesperson for Conservative MP in the riding Shelly Glover called Simard's comments "unfortunate," and denied Glover's camp had any involvement.

Campaign sabotage

It's not just attack ads that are getting nastier as election day nears — so are the shenanigans.

- A Liberal campaign worker in Brampton, Ont., is charged with pilfering Conservative signs.
- Candidates in Manitoba and Ontario complain voters are receiving harassing late-night phone calls from imposters.
- Liberal candidate in Ontario loses $2,000 worth of signs after bull's-eyes are painted over his head.



▶ NDP Leader Jack Layton fulfils one of his childhood dreams as he gives the weather report during a visit to the morning TV show Canada AM, yesterday.

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JACQUES BOISSINOT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Layton cool with coalition

RESISTANCE. Jack Layton says he's open to some kind of coalition in the next Parliament if the Conservatives fall short of a majority.

But the NDP leader is quick to add the Bloc Québécois won't be part of any coalition cabinet or government.

Although Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff has shied away from the idea and Prime Minister Stephen Harper has tried to make "coalition" a dirty word, Layton says he sees nothing wrong with it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Champlain Bridge is not falling down

PRAYERS. The Roman Catholic Church in Montreal is sending a message to motorists as they approach the city's crumbling Champlain Bridge: Say Your Prayers.

The Archdiocese of Montreal hopes the catchy highway billboard will draw attention to the church and encourage people to fill up collection plates over Easter.

A spokeswoman for the archdiocese says there's nothing morbid about the ad because authorities have assured the public there is no danger the Champlain will suddenly collapse.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Harper mum on minority 'what ifs'

Stephen Harper is refusing to say whether he'd stay on as Conservative leader if he fails to win a majority.

The prime minister says he won't take the bait on the question and insists he's campaigning to win.

Harper was in Thunder Bay, Ont., talking up the Tory plan to spend $100 million on a fund to support brain research and neuroscience.

He's hammering home the message that only a Conservative majority government can deliver on health-care funding and critical medical research.

Both Harper and Liberal rival Michael Ignatieff, who's campaigning in Winnipeg, are showing signs of fatigue — Harper slipped up on several of his scripted lines. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"You know I'm not going to take the bite on that one ... We're in the election to win."

STEPHEN HARPER, WHEN ASKED IF HE'D STAY ON IF DENIED A MAJORITY

Controlling air traffic on job or remote control?

After many sleep on job, one air traffic controller caught watching film

An air traffic controller has been suspended for watching a movie when he was supposed to be monitoring aircraft, deepening the Federal Aviation Administration's embarrassment following at least five cases of controllers sleeping on the job.

In the latest incident, the controller was watching a movie on a DVD player early Sunday morning while on duty at a regional radar centre in Oberlin, Ohio, which handles high-altitude air traffic, the FAA said in a statement Monday.

"None of us in this business can ... tolerate any of this. It absolutely has to stop."
RANDY BABBITT, FAA ADMINISTRATOR

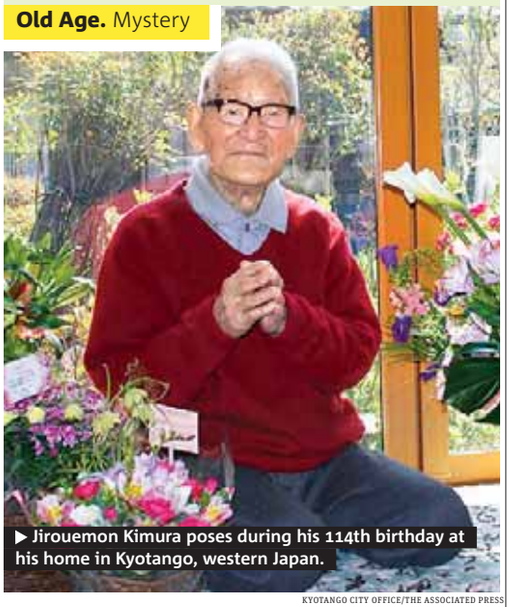
The controller's microphone was inadvertently activated, transmitting the audio of the movie — the 2007 crime thriller Cleaner, starring Samuel L. Jackson — for more than three minutes to all the planes in the airspace that the controller was supposed to be monitoring, the agency said.

The controller's microphone became stuck in the transmit position, preventing him from hearing incoming radio calls or issuing instructions to planes during the incident, the agency said.

The controller was alerted to the mishap when he was contacted by a military pilot.

Besides the controller, the FAA also suspended a manager at the Oberlin centre. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Old Age. Mystery



▶ Jirouemon Kimura poses during his 114th birthday at his home in Kyotango, western Japan.

KYOTANGO CITY OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Don't worry, be thankful

The world's oldest man said on his 114th birthday yesterday that his longevity was a mystery even to himself, but noted that his motto was not to worry and always be thankful.

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Radicals banned from protesting at royal wedding

William and Kate's nuptials pose severe security challenge Using publicly announced parade route

British police have rejected a request by a small band of radical Islamists to stage a protest outside Prince William and Kate Middleton's royal wedding venue on April 29, Scotland Yard said yesterday.

Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner Lynne Owens said Muslims Against Crusades would not be allowed to demonstrate outside Westminster Abbey and "ongoing discussions" were underway as to whether the group would be allowed to hold a protest nearby.

SUZANNE PLUNKETT/AP PHOTO

▶ Kate Middleton's family gets a new coat of arms.

Police said they are also negotiating with the far-right English Defence League who have said they plan to hold a shadow protest if the group's application was successful.

Police released some details of their security operation for the wedding, saying 5,000 uniformed and undercover officers would be assigned to the wedding.

The wedding will be attended by a large collection of royals, politicians and VIPs including Queen Elizabeth II and about 50 other heads of state.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

HAIR-BRAINED CAMPAIGN

It's not hard to make me crazy. All you have to do is promote one of the following Big Lies:

The Holocaust never happened. It's just a way for Israel to justify its existence ... 9-11 was an inside job ... The world is only 6,000 years old and dinosaurs walked claw in hand with Fred Flintstone ... The moon landing never happened. It was filmed on a Hollywood back lot ... Global warming is a hoax perpetrated by scientists who don't want to lose their grants ... Barack Obama wasn't really born in the U.S. He's not an American citizen, so he's not eligible to be president.

To the people reading this column who believe any or all of the above, I have a bridge you might want to buy. It spans some unbelievably cheap land in Florida that is also for sale.

To Donald Trump, who is playing the "Obama is not an American" card to launch his U.S. presidential bid, I say shame on you. I didn't think you could sink much lower than Celebrity Apprentice, but apparently you're just getting warmed up.

So what if every credible news organization has verified that Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on Aug. 4, 1961. The "birther" conspiracy theorists, a group entirely composed of rednecks from south of the Mason-Dixon Line (and opportunistic Republicans like the Donald) refuse to believe it.

They believe Obama was born in Kenya. Or held dual citizenship — British/Indonesian/Kenyan — whatever.

This even though Obama has produced a birth certificate from a Honolulu hospital, legal in every aspect, documenting his birth. Pshaw, say the birthers. If he was really born in Hawaii, he would be able to produce the long form — by implication, the real thing that can't be forged. But there was no long form in Hawaii. Obama's certificate is the only form, and it goes with a long string of other evidence: For example, birth notices in the local papers from the Hawaii Department of Health.

None of this cuts the mustard with the Donald, who has decided Obama needs to be fired.

And while mainstream Republicans are slowly backing away from Trump and his ridiculous allegations, the latest poll has him No. 2 among Republican hopefuls, below Mitt Romney, but above Mike Huckabee and Sarah Palin.

And he's on a roll, endorsed by Celebrity Apprentice contestant Gary Busey, who obviously doesn't care the boss is pandering to a blatant lie perpetrated by a bunch of racists who will do anything to get that black guy out of the Oval Office.

Ignorance is alive and well and living on cable.

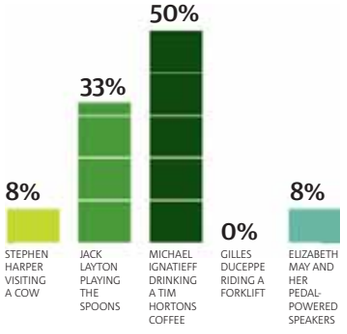
And it has a really bad comb-over.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

metro life panel

Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

Who has made use of the best campaign prop in the election so far?



Local tweets

- **@ImpressionsHS:** CHEAP DECORATING TIP#15 Rearrange your existing furniture; move pieces like a chair or sidetable to a different place in your house. #yvr
- **@WhistlerBlckcmb:** Skynet has launched and our days are numbered. U better head to @wssf in #whistler to enjoy #springskiing & parties http://ow.ly/4DI5D
- **@drosennhl:** Raffi Torres was asked by media to stop and talk in the Canucks dressing room. "Focusing on the game tonight, that's about it," he replied.
- **@EhManhas:** Big game tonight! #Canucks against those hated #Hawks, I have a big feeling the brooms are coming out. No #Seabrook in lineup. + for Nucks
- **@neilhillbrandt:** Trying to decide which beer will be the best to celebrate the #Canucks 4th win tonight.
- **@yolandecole:** City council now directing questions to staff on proposed casino. Woodsworth asks why no economic, environmental impact studies. #vancasino
- **@judyrudin:** Cold and clammy. Me. Not the pols. #vancasino

Worth mentioning

VIENNA, Austria. Austrian Wildlife authorities are hopping mad that efforts to save the local frog population are being hampered by Italian poachers.

Officials in the Austrian province of Carinthia said yesterday poachers are collecting frogs from the roadside buckets they have been guided into to save them from busy highways, and are then smuggling them home to Italian dinner tables.

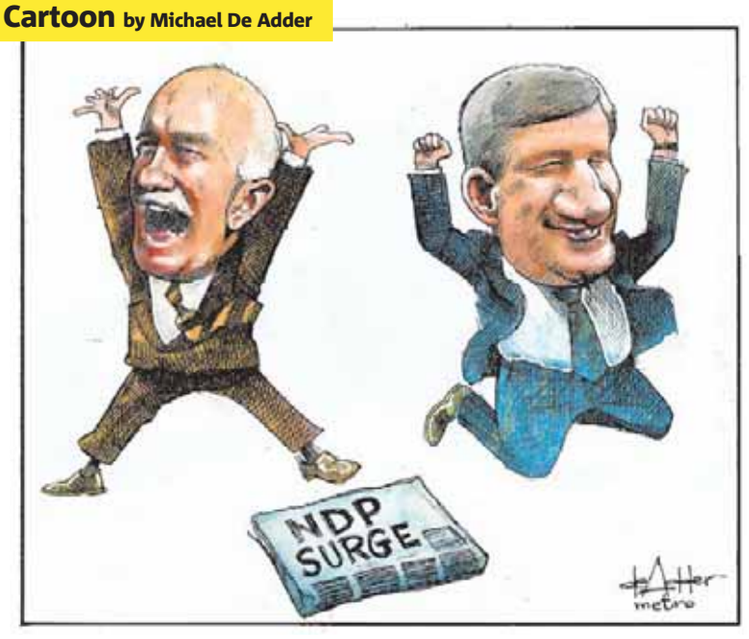
Frogs' legs are a delicacy in some parts of Italy. Officials told Austrian state television yesterday that the victims tend to be those with the meatiest thighs.

Frogs attempting to cross some Austrian highways are channelled by a series of fences into roadside buckets. Once a day, volunteers collect the buckets and carry the amphibians to the other side of the road and set them free. But "the Italians strike before the frog pickers come," said Carinthian environmental official Bernhard Gutleb.

Nearly one-third of the world's 6,485 frog species are on the brink of extinction, according to Save The Frogs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael De Adder



WEIRD NEWS

Their families must be so proud of them

The U.S. sheriff known for dressing inmates in pink underwear and feeding them green baloney is inviting people to choose the most popular jail booking photos posted on his website.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio allows online users to browse through the photos and then vote on their favourites that will be highlighted on a "Mugshot of the Day" section.

▶ Infamous mug: Nick Nolte in 2002.

The top picks so far aren't unexpected: They are the most dishevelled, unusual looking people among those booked into an Arizona jail.

Arpaio says he hopes the increased web traffic will highlight the work of his employees.

He also says more crimes may be uncovered if the public can view the photos.

The website is www.mcso.org.

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Inflation spike, interest hike?

Almost everything cost more last month ◗ If it's a trend, not a fluke, look for interest rates to follow suit

Canada's annual inflation rate, which had been bucking global trends, leapt to 3.3 per cent, with both the yearly reading and last month's measure rising by 1.1 points.

It was the biggest single-month jump in inflation since the eve of the 2008 recession, and well above the projected 0.6 per cent gain.

The Bank of Canada's mandate is to keep inflation within a range of one to three per cent and as close as possible to two per cent. Last month's spike increases prospects that interest rates will soon rise.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
+ 34.5 (13,736.83)	+ 0.84¢ (104.55¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft
+ $1.03 US ($108.15 US)	$4.262 US (+ 12.4¢ US)

Gold contracts $1,495.10 US (+ $2.20 US)

The price of commodities, especially oil, was a big part of the inflation surge, but almost everything was costlier compared to February and last year. Statistics Canada said all eight of the components it tracks were up, including food, which was 3.3 per cent higher than last year.

The only good news for the central bank is that core inflation, which excludes volatile items such as gasoline, remained well anchored at 1.7 per cent.

The bank's next meeting on interest rates is May 31.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Play. Book

▶ Tech watchers had predicted lineups for the PlayBook would be short, as they were yesterday in Toronto, partly because pre-orders could be booked online.

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Far from the iPadding crowd

A scattering of Research In Motion fans held an early morning vigil to be the first to get their hands on the company's PlayBook tablet, which launched yesterday. It was a stark contrast to the jostling crowds of tech geeks that awaited the debut of rival Apple's iPad 2 last month.

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2 scene

Translating success

Jessie J recorded 600 songs for debut CD Talks about school with Adele, writing songs for Miley Cyrus

Jessie J spent the last seven years crafting songs for her debut CD. And in that time she came up with a whopping 600 tracks.

"(It) isn't that many 'cause it's less than 100 a year," she said. "(There are) the bad ones that no one will ever hear ... (but) I was young and the thing is, you have to write the bad ones to kind of know when something is good."

Luckily, the 23-year-old found 13 songs good enough to make it on her first album.

Price Tag, which features rapper B.o.B, hit the Top 40 on the Billboard chart last week.

B.o.B is the only featured artist on your debut. Why him?

If I was a male rapper — which obviously I'm not — (but) if I was, I think I'd be like him, and maybe (be) called like J.o.B. ... I remember he got played the song, he loved it and I did like five plane journeys in like four days and chased him around the U.S. to make sure I was there (for the recording), so it was an experience.

"You have to write the bad ones to kind of know when something is good."
JESSIE J TALKING ABOUT WRITING 600 SONGS FOR HER ALBUM

So you went to high school with Adele — how was that?

She was in music and I was in musical theatre. ... We used to jam at lunch time and someone would play guitar and we both would just sing. ... At the time we both didn't know we'd have, like, albums out at the same time. And she's killing it. I'm so proud of her. ... (At school) she was very kind of loud and everyone knew her and she was the girl everyone loved and up for a laugh and you could hear her laugh from a mile down the corridor.

Talk about writing Miley Cyrus' Party In the USA.

That was my first week of writing after I signed to (Universal) Republic (Records), so it was like the first big kind of writing session for my debut album ... and it was one of the first songs we did. And I remember thinking this song is amazing, but I don't know if it's me 110 per cent, you know. You can kind of feel it. It was cool but it wasn't edgy enough.

It was a big deal for Miley though.

There are so many friends of mine that would say, 'I would never, ever, ever listen to Miley Cyrus, like, as Hannah Montana' and it kind of brought her over to another style.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEFF CHRISTENSEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Recording artist Jessie J, who won Critics' Choice at this year's Brit Awards, is hoping to find similar success in North America.

Making music

Jeff Bridges is working on a new album that will be his major-label debut. The Oscar-winning actor has signed with EMI's Blue Note Records and is working with his Crazy Heart collaborator T Bone Burnett on an album that will include original material and the work of other songwriters.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MTV plans inaugural O Music Awards in Las Vegas to honour digital music and fans

The UK's world wide wedding

Next Friday's royal wedding to be live streamed on YouTube Will feature live blog of wedding events

MICHAEL DUNLEA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palace officials will offer live streaming of the April 29 royal wedding between Prince William and Kate Middleton on the royal channel on YouTube.

The four-hour live Internet coverage will include the ceremony at Westminster Abbey, the procession to Buckingham Palace, and the newlyweds' appearance on the palace balcony for an expected first public kiss.

William's press office will also provide a live blog providing commentary and historical information as well as additional footage.

"The couple wish to strike a balance between a day that is sacred and intimate and a day that will be a cause for global celebration," a St. James' Palace spokesman said yesterday, declining to be identified because of palace policy. "To that end, they want the wedding to be as accessible to as many people as possible and that's why they are communicating in this way."

Officials said the couple have taken a hands-on approach the wedding planning.

"William and Catherine have thoroughly enjoyed the process of creating their special day. They have been responsible for everything from the smallest detail, such as the reception canapes, to the big decisions like the carriages," he added.

Officials said this will be the first time YouTube has run a live blog alongside a live stream for an event.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Lohan still has job offers

Film producer calls the troubled star a 'great, great actress' Wants her for two of his projects

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES FILE

Lindsay Lohan can take solace in the fact that she can still get work. Film producer Mark Fiore tells Radar Online that he's interested in the troubled actress for not one but two upcoming projects.

"I want Lindsay to be in Gotti and another movie that I'm producing," says Fiore, who serves as executive producer for Gotti: Three Generations.

"She's been very professional," he says. "People make mistakes. Look at other people in Hollywood." METRO

Celebrity tweets

"It's tough sharing a birthday with Kourtney Kardashian. Our friends never know which party to go to."

@ConanOBrien

@DaveJMatthews

"What if everyone's Twitter picture was of them flipping the bird. Maybe for a couple days. Maybe forever. Meant well or not. Just fun no?"

@margaretcho

"Ghosts are scary especially when they get in bed with you!"

@jimmykimmel

"When did a homeless person standing on a corner in a Statue of Liberty costume become the official mascot of tax day?"

Sheen's ex Denise offers help

As Charlie Sheen has fought to get his twin sons back after ex-wife Brooke Mueller's recent drug troubles, he's found an unlikely ally: his previous ex-wife, Denise Richards, whom he's been badmouthing on his Violent Torpedo of Truth tour.

Richards reportedly offered to step in and take care of the boys while Sheen tours and Mueller heads to rehab, according to TMZ.

Sheen reportedly responded with a simple, "I'll keep you posted." METRO

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Cowell still wants Mariah for X Factor

Despite the fact that Mariah Carey is about to give birth to twins, Simon Cowell is expecting the singer to get to work soon on the U.S. edition of X Factor, he said during a radio interview in Spokane, Wash. "I think Mariah will have a role on the live shows. I met her recently and she was in great form," Cowell says of Carey, who was originally in line to be a judge on the show before her pregnancy.

"Her idea was to be the judge of the judges, which only Mariah could come up with," Cowell says. "She'll be involved in some form. I literally adore her. I love her to bits." METRO

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#ELXN41 LEADERS ON CITY ISSUES THAT MATTER

This Easter, satisfy everyone's sweet tooth

One of these recipes is more traditional, while the other uses some innovative thinking

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ STEPHEN HAMILTON

▶ This recipe makes four Apple Pocket Pies.

This Easter, think outside the pie plate and celebrate the holiday with the trendiest innovation in pie-baking in decades.

Pocket pies are tasty, colourful and easy as pie to make. These miniature homemade treats are sure to delight all ages.

Apple Pocket Pies

Ingredients:

- 2 frozen deep dish pie shells
- 250 ml (1 cup) peeled and finely chopped Granny Smith apples
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) brown sugar
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) all-purpose flour
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) milk

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 200 C (400 F). Remove pie shells from freezer and let thaw at room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes.
2. In a bowl, combine apples, sugar, cinnamon and flour. Set aside.
3. Remove pie shells from foil onto a clean, flat, lightly floured surface. If cracks appear in the pastry, press together and repair using fingers moistened with water.
4. Using an oval egg-shaped cookie cutter that's 7 by 10 cm (2 3/4 by 4 inches), cut out 6 egg shapes from each pie shell. Set aside any leftover dough.
5. Divide filling mixture evenly among 6 cutouts, mounding in centre and leaving a 5-mm (1/4-inch) border. Top with remaining cutouts. Gently press edges together and crimp with a fork.
6. Brush tops lightly with milk and bake for 12 to 15 minutes or until pastry is golden.

Decorating tips: Use any leftover dough to cut shapes to decorate top. Brush with milk or egg wash to affix to pie and bake as directed above. Decorate pies with multi-coloured sprinkles by brushing top with milk or egg wash, adding sprinkles and bake.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ TENDERFLAKE.COM

NEWS CANADA

Chocolate Bunnies

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS. CA

Chocolate Bunnies are a staple Easter treat. These ones are perfect for kid participation. Let your little ones measure ingredients, use cookie cutters to shape the treats, and decorate.

Preparation:

1. In saucepan melt chocolate morsels and butter over low heat. Add marshmallows and stir until melted. Remove from heat. Add cereal and stir until coated.
2. Using buttered spatula evenly press mixture into 15 x 10 x 1–inch (38 x 25 x 2.5 cm) baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Cool completely.
3. Using large circle cookie cutter, small circle cookie cutter and rabbit head cookie cutter coated with cooking spray, cut cereal mixture into shapes. For each rabbit, attach one rabbit head shape to top of large circle shape with frosting. Attach one small circle for tail to each. Decorate with frosting and/or candies.

NEWS CANADA/ RICEKRISPIES.CA

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup (250mL) semi–sweet chocolate morsels
- 3 tbsp (45mL) butter or margarine
- 1 pkg (10 oz) marshmallows, about 40 or 4 cups (1 L) miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups (1.5 L) rice crisp cereal
- Frosting or decorating gel
- Assorted candies

3 life

Egg History

Did you know that since ancient days, the egg has been the symbol of new life? Even before it became entwined with the Christian Easter, eggs were used by Romans, Chinese, and Egyptians in rite–of–spring festivals as a way to celebrate the dawn of a new season. **NEWS CANADA**

There are many ways to decorate eggs. Here's some simple ideas to kick it up a notch.

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Opinion

J.J. MCCULLOUGH

FEW THINGS ARE CERTAIN IN WILD WEST

As power, people and commerce in Canada continue to shift westward, the old clichés about federal elections and British Columbia — namely, that everything important gets decided while we're still waiting in the church basement lineup — are proving themselves increasingly useless. If the Conservatives are able to eke out the majority victory they so crave, it will almost certainly be won through the goodwill of a few pockets of swing voters in Vancouver and its surrounding suburbs.

Clout can manifest in unusual ways. The Tories' decision to make "tough on human smuggling" point number 3 of their three-point ad blitz generated scratched heads back East, but skillfully tapped into a key B.C. insecurity. It was on our shores, after all, that the now-infamous MV Sun Sea landed last summer, and it will almost certainly not be the West Coast's last encounter with uninvited human cargo.

Yet despite it all, polls show British Columbians have not drawn particularly strong conclusions about immigration — legal or otherwise — leaving the multiculturalism issue malleable to partisans of all sides. Today, all of Greater Vancouver's most contested ridings feature at least one non-white candidate, each pitching a different spin on Ottawa's role in the demographic game. While minority Liberal or NDP candidates clearly seek to mobilize immigrant support through fears of a xenophobic Harper majority, Tory immigrant candidates have pushed back just as hard against right-wing stereotyping — usually by holding themselves as Exhibit A.

Uncertain attitudes toward crime in Metro Vancouver provide equal fodder. Are the Lower Mainland's crime rates, which are well above the national average, the product of a weak judicial system and underfunded law enforcement, or merely the predictable acts of mobster cartels in an era of excessive drug prohibition? Increasingly, this duality forms the lens through which so many issues are framed in urban B.C., with any number of nominally important hot buttons, from Insite to gangland shootings, mere avatars in a larger ideological drama.

Of course, to a considerable degree, singling out "Vancouver issues" will always be something of a mug's game; for all our locality's famed eccentricities, we remain just as preoccupied with big, bland national issues like unemployment, health care, taxes and the federal deficit as anyone in Toronto or Montreal.

The challenge for any party seeking to pick up seats in the Lower Mainland is not how successfully it panders to our particularly quaint parochialisms, but how skilled it is at including us in larger, comprehensive solutions to our shared national anxieties.

YOU ASKED,

Metro readers submitted questions for the five parties Here's what they had to say ...

Tomorrow at 11 a.m., join us for a live chat as our crack urban affairs team responds to the parties' answers — what's working, what isn't and what's missing from the federal agenda. Speak up at metronews.ca and on Twitter using #elxn41urban."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Stephen Harper

CONSERVATIVES

1 **Many immigrants to Canada are encouraged and allowed to move here based on their professional experience or credentials, only to discover once they arrive that their credentials are not recognized. What role should the federal government play in addressing this problem?**

In 2009, we invested $50 million over two years ... to streamline the recognition process in a number of important occupations and made it easier for foreign-trained Canadians to use their skills and expertise in Canada. But some foreign-trained workers still have difficulty paying for ... the foreign credential recognition process. A re-elected Stephen Harper Government will provide bridge loans to help recent immigrants pay for the training and skills upgrading needed for their foreign credentials to be recognized.

2 **Other G8 countries have national transit strategies, but in Canada federal investments in public transit tend to be ad hoc, which many big-city mayors have argued leads to worse planning and less efficient spending. Does Canada need a national transit strategy, and if so, what should it look like?**

In the past two years alone, we have worked with municipal and provincial partners to undertake more than 28,500 projects, many transit-related from coast-to-coast. A re-elected Stephen Harper Government will continue to support Canadian communities according to their unique needs. We introduced the transit tax credit to encourage Canadians to take public transit, reducing traffic in major city centres.

3 **According to Statistics Canada, the crime rate has been declining since the early 1990s, yet concern about crime in urban areas seems to be on the rise. How do you reconcile this discrepancy?**

We have passed a number of pieces of legislation to protect the vulnerable and to hold criminals accountable. We have also invested in youth gang prevention and other initiatives to encourage Canadians to stay clear of criminal activities. A re-elected Conservative government will build on our strong record by enacting legislation to end the sentence discount for child pornography and child sex offenders and toughening penalties for elder abuse.

4 **According to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, only $8 of every $100 Canadians spend on taxes goes to cities, yet cities are struggling to pay for infrastructure, policing, housing and many of the government services city residents actually interact with most on a day-to-day basis. What changes are required to ensure cities are sufficiently funded?**

In 2008, Stephen Harper's Conservative government permanently doubled the gas tax fund. This major step forward for municipalities is providing a stable and predictable source of revenue for the renewal of local infrastructure. A re-elected Conservative Government will introduce legislation to confirm this permanent funding for municipal infrastructure through the gas tax fund.

5 **A century ago only 20 per cent of Canadians lived in urban areas. That number has now increased to 80 per cent (or more than 25 million Canadians). What is your party's vision for the role of cities within the Canadian federation, now and into the future?**

Cities are vitally important to Canada's economic success. Our government understands that. A re-elected Stephen Harper Conservative government will continue to work effectively with all levels of government to deliver historic investments in local infrastructure, including better highways, roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems, housing college and university facilities, public transit, and green energy.

THEY ANSWERED

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Michael Ignatieff

LIBERALS

The federal government must do a better job screening and advising prospective immigrants on credential recognition before they leave their countries of origin. Improving credential recognition and the integration of new Canadians into the workforce requires a renewed effort between governments, professional groups, educational institutions, sector councils and unions. We will provide leadership and make this a priority.

A Liberal government will work with other levels of government and the private sector to put in place a Canadian transportation and infrastructure strategy. Liberal infrastructure priorities will include local and regional transit, rapid transit, and commuter rail that helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as high-speed rail in regions where rapid, convenient connections between major urban centres promise environmental benefits, enhanced mobility, and decreased congestion.

Crime is always a serious problem. We need evidence-based crime policies that are tough on crime where we need tougher sentences, but also strong on crime prevention. What we don't need is to import failed crime policies from the United States. If we want to be tough on crime, we must be tough on guns. The gun registry is supported by Canada's police force as well as countless organizations in women's health and safety because it improves public safety.

We will maintain the successful gas tax transfer to municipalities and provide additional funds. A lack of affordable housing in large cities is a growing barrier to young families of modest incomes looking for their first home. We will increase the federal investment in affordable housing by $550 million, and work with cities to put in place a renewed affordable housing framework to reduce homelessness and increase the supply of affordable housing.

We view the cities as equal partners. The previous Liberal government made the most important contribution to municipal public finance in a generation through its 2005 New Deal for Cities and Communities. A new Liberal government will build on that progress. We will be a strong federal partner, working with our cities on the next generation of transit infrastructure and affordable housing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jack Layton

NDP

A New Democrat government would take a leadership role to move toward a fair, efficient, transparent and accountable immigration system. In conjunction with provinces and licensing authorities, we will accelerate and streamline the recognition of foreign credentials, overseas degrees, and previous employment experience. To assist with community integration and English and French language programs, we will reinstate federal funding for the settlement programs for new Canadians.

Yes. Because Canada is the only OECD country that does not have a national public transit strategy. New Democrats tabled the National Public Transit Strategy Act, which outlines a practical plan for providing sustainable, predictable, public transit investments. New Democrats have also promised to allocate an additional cent of the existing gas tax to public transit funding for municipalities and to encourage transit use by providing a tax exemption for employee workplace-based transit passes.

To improve public safety on the streets of our communities ... New Democrats will provide stable, permanent funding to put at least 2,500 new police officers on the streets and increase federal support for crime prevention initiatives from $65 million to $100 million per year. We will give parents, teachers and police more tools to protect our children by making gang recruitment illegal and create new, standalone offences for home invasions and car-jackings.

In addition to increased funding for public transit, New Democrats will continue current federal infrastructure funding commitments and invest in community-controlled renewable energy development. In addition to restoring the affordable housing programs the Harper government allowed to expire, we will fund 100,000 new child-care spaces and provide around $1 billion a year for new affordable housing.

Canada's cities must be regarded as important resources in Canada's future economy. Jack Layton is determined to increase investment in cities, including an extra cent of the gas tax – $500 million a year – for public transit. He understands the important role these communities play in our country's overall economy and is committed to seeing there is a place at the negotiating table for cities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Elizabeth May

GREENS

The Green party finds fault with the current accreditation system. We would eliminate the valuation of foreign credentials for immigration purposes except in those cases where such credentials are recognized in Canada, or a clear, expeditious path to accreditation is established, and in place establish realistic criteria for immigrants based on existing job opportunities. We would also press professional societies to remove unnecessary barriers hindering the recognition of valid professional credentials.

The Green party of Canada's position is that we must adopt a national transit strategy that strengthens our rail network and public transit systems in order to have a competitive, modern economy. We are committed to providing cities with the resources to create public transit systems that reduce congestion. We are also committed to ensuring all of Canada's cities have access to rail connections, and develop high-speed corridors between frequently travelled routes.

We believe the current rise in concern over crime is directly linked with the federal government's fixation on the subject and its $9 billion spent on new prisons. Still, even with the crime rate going down, we would all like to feel safer. We are committed to further reducing crime through better programs in youth activity and early childhood education. We are committed to addressing underlying causes of crime such as poverty, racism, and inequality.

In our 2011 election platform, the Green party announced a slate of initiatives of long-term investments in municipalities and housing. That slate includes a national affordable housing program, a national solar roof program, and energy retrofits for municipal buildings, schools, universities and hospitals, growing to more than $1.6 billion annually by Year 3. An additional $2.4 billion of permanent annual funding has been allocated for six municipal superfunds beginning in the first year.

We believe that cities form a pillar of the green economy. When municipalities set out to build and repair infrastructure, retrofit and rebuild affordable housing, and modernize our aging public transit over decades, it's a decades-long commitment. Their decisions now will decide what kind of an economy we will have for the next 50 years. We hope to work with our cities to lead Canada to a sustainable future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Gilles Duceppe

BLOC QUÉBÉCOIS

The evaluation and the recognition of credentials is Quebec's and the other provinces' responsibility. Quebec is, to a certain extend, autonomous in terms of immigration. Unfortunately, the actual agreement with the federal government doesn't allow us to put forward all the values that characterize Quebec. The only way Quebec will be able to deploy a more efficient and human politic is by getting a hold of the means sovereign countries can count on, like embassies and consulates.

The Bloc Québécois is in favour of discussions to be held across Canada to put in place a frame, which could allow the adoption of politics that are compatible. However, such discussions should not be used as an excuse by the federal government to interfere in Quebec's jurisdiction and, by doing so, double the politics, double the expenses and complicate the legislation.

Since it came into power, the Conservative government has ... adopted an alarmist rhetoric in regards to criminality. It is true that the fight against crime is important, but we have to remember that crime rates have been going down in Quebec and in Canada for nearly 15 years. The Bloc Québécois suggests concrete and efficient legislative measures to protect vulnerable people, particularly children and victims of human trafficking.

The Bloc Québécois proposed that the investments in infrastructures be modified to take into account the different governments' ability to pay. The federal government would pay for 50 per cent of the expenses, Quebec and the provinces would pay for 35 per cent, while the municipalities would pay for 15 per cent. That reflects the capacity to pay of everyone. The Bloc Québécois asks the federal government to regroup its programs under one unique and unconditional transfer fund.

Large cities have more and more responsibilities. We ask that the federal government participate in the fight against poverty by reinvesting in affordable and safe social housing. We also wish it would support the Quebec government in the development of infrastructures for transit systems, notably by establishing reserved lanes for common transportation and by developing new commuter train lines.

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If the thought of jumping the pond to Europe sounds exciting, yet the price slighting overwhelming, then consider packing your bags and heading to the capital of Quebec. Over 400-years-old and the only walled-in city remaining in North America, Quebec City exudes a character and romance reminiscent of Europe. Find out just how easy it is to have an affordable getaway with a French flair.

Historical Sites

As one of the oldest cities in North America, this destination is brimming with historic landmarks, the most notable being Old Quebec, a designated UNESCO world heritage site. Other treasures include the Parliament Building, architecturally inspired by the Louvre, the historic urban park of the Plains of Abraham and the fortifications that surround the old city. Plus you'll keep your budget in check, as many of the historic sites are free of charge.

Divine Dining

Follow the lead of the French and dine at a restaurant that focuses on fresh, local ingredients. For a memorable meal try Le Patriarche in Old Quebec with dishes inspired by the province including their signature wild game trilogy and desserts created by their in-house pastry chef. It's a true French dining experience worth the splurge.

FLICKR: LOIMER

▶ Taking a stroll in beautiful Quebec City.

Sweet Sleeps

From quaint B&B's to the iconic Château Frontenac, it's easy to find accommodations with old-world charm. Perched on a cape overlooking the St. Lawrence River, the Fairmont Le Château Frontenac is a 618-room luxury hotel in Old Quebec offering award-winning cuisine and a full-service spa and health club. Established in 1832 by an Irish settler, Hayden's Wexford House is a quaint bed and breakfast with three Victorian-style bedrooms and run by two gracious and knowledgable hosts.

Fun Freebies

Strolling along Rue St. Paul, climbing the Rue de la Montage and exploring the main collection at the Musée National des Beaux-Arts, you'll find there is much to do in the city without spending a penny. Try a guided tour through the 17th century Notre-Dame de Quebec Basilica-Cathedral or talk a short drive to view the stunning Montmorency Falls, one-and-a-half times higher than Niagara Falls.

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the Royal Wedding

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Finding a romantic Scottish hideaway

The perfect date night place for Kate and William

CONTRIBUTED

▶ A visit to The Three Chimneys in the Isle of Skye would be a great place for the Royal couple to visit.

On the shores of Loch Dunvegan in the Isle of Skye sits The Three Chimneys, one of Scotland's most famous restaurants complete with a tiny guesthouse, both incredibly luxe and intimate.

The Three Chimneys has been described as The French Laundry of Scotland, with people from around the world traveling to Chef Michael Smith's kitchen. All food is harvested locally and the menu changes weekly according to ingredients.

Because so many people travel here to dine, six plush guest rooms were opened at The House Over-By, each boasting a breathtaking view of the open sea.

This sweet spot would be the perfect place for the Royal couple to seek pre-party solace and is an absolutely wonderful place to honeymoon.

ALISON MCGILL/ WEDDINGBELLS

6 ways to reduce the chances of losing your luggage

- Before your bag disappears behind the ticket counter, make sure the airline's tag has your name, flight number and final destination.
- Place a copy of your flight itinerary inside your suitcase with your cellphone number and the name of your hotel in case the tag is ripped off or goes missing.
- If you can't live without it, don't check it. It might take days to return a lost bag. Don't pack medication or outfits for tomorrow's meeting or wedding. Never check valuables such as jewelry or electronics.
- Make your bag stand out. A bright colour or print — or something tied to the handle — prevents somebody from accidentally taking it at baggage claim.
- Prepare your carry-on bag as if it will be checked. You might not have planned to check your bag, but given today's crowded overhead bins many flyers don't have a choice.
- If your bag doesn't arrive, file a claim before you leave the airport. If on a cruise, give your itinerary to the airline so your luggage can be forwarded to the next port.

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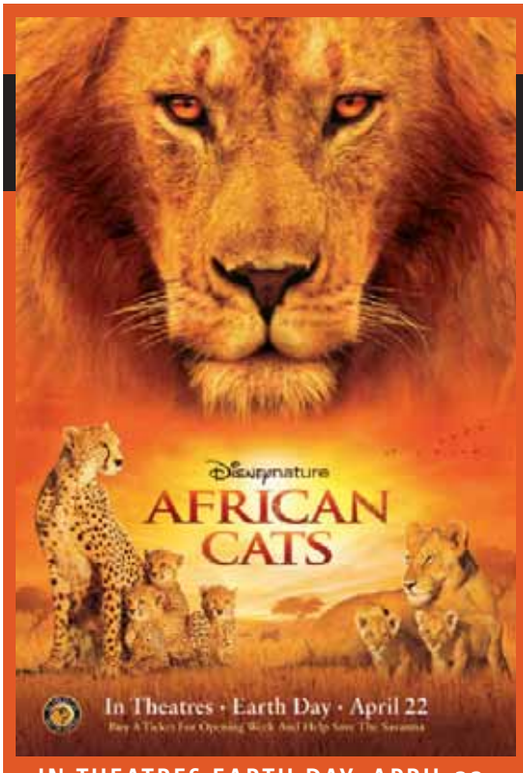

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Understanding what makes your corporate overlord tick is a near-impossible pursuit.

But if you're struggling to make good with the new somebody you've got to serve, we've got career counsellors to help us understand four things all bosses want.

A Sense of Priorities

"A common mistake that entry-level workers make is that they're focused on their work and see that as their priority," New York-based Executive Coach Barbara Frankel notes. "What they don't understand is that their first priority is their boss's priority."

Figuring out what the bigwig upstairs cares about might necessitate asking around, says Donna Flag, a career coach. Don't be hesitant to raise the question early on.

"I recommend that people, even in the interviewing process, ask, 'What are you looking for? What matters to you?'" she suggests.

Open Ears

"In the beginning, you want to listen more than you talk," says Lindsay Pollack, a Generation Y Career Blog writer. Many fresh hires, she adds, come in thinking the opposite.

"Most people think they have to walk in and deliver results immediately," Frankel agrees. "The right way to approach a job is to listen and learn."

If you have observations, she says, jot them down. Six months from now they might be worth considering.

Interested in We, Not I

Newbies who come in trying to prove themselves often undermine themselves by boasting of their past accomplishments.

Bragging is a great way, to spoil your reputation from day one, says Jane Cranston career counsellor.

"At a business meeting you should say, 'Am I talking about me? Or am I talking about business,'" she cautions.

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Keep

Research shows that a non-interactive classrooms can be especially hard on young learners

Students' interest and desire to participate actively in the learning process is central to their success at any level of education. All students are motivated by some activities; in schools, student motivation is deeply affected by what happens in classrooms. Research drawn from several fields suggests ways we can improve students' engagement and motivation.

• Relevance – Building on students' interests and

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students interested

▶ A sincere desire to engage in learning is key to retaining information for kids.

making the lessons relevant to students' lives and what they already know are good practices.

• Choice – Giving students more choices in their learning, both about what to study and about how to present what they know and can do, makes learning more interesting and heightens curiosity.

• Recognizing Effort – Success is a big spur to further effort. Students' motivation increases when their efforts and contributions are consistently valued.

• Feedback – Timely and specific feedback tells students what their strengths and weaknesses are. Feedback must be given so that students understand what they need to do in order to improve. Multiple opportunities to demonstrate learning are also important.

• Teaching Methods and Tools – Students learn best through a variety of teaching techniques and strategies that challenge them and encourage them to explore ideas. The use of technology, such as computers, and SMART Boards, can also help to motivate students.

Parents are valuable partners in the learning process. They can support their child's learning by suggesting strategies to teachers that they have observed to be successful at home. This will help teachers meet the child's learning needs.

Teachers and parents support their children's learning when they praise effort and hard work rather than intelligence. There is growing evidence that children's intelligence is not fixed, and the children who do best are those who develop "growth mindsets" so that they are prepared to put in the effort to succeed.

COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (CEA) AND THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO (OISE/UT)

More info

For more information on the research references that inform this issue, visit cea-ace.ca/facts-on-education.

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4 sports

Canucks squander chance to clinch

Blackhawks offence erupts with defenceman Seabrook sitting out
Luongo shaken up in loss

BY JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Roberto Luongo heads to the locker-room past teammate Mikael Samuelsson after being removed in the third period in Chicago last night.

HAWKS	CANUCKS
7	2

Chicago coach Joel Quenneville was asked this week if Dave Bolland should even play against the Vancouver Canucks with the Blackhawks trailing in the series 3-0.

Why risk using a guy coming off a concussion when the chances of winning a series seemed so bleak?

Bolland provided the answer last night. Emphatically.

After missing 17 games, the versatile centre scored a goal and had three assists as the defending Stanley Cup champs avoided being swept with a 7-2 win.

"A huge boost," Quenneville said. "We certainly fed off his presence."

Bolland passed a final physical test yesterday morning and was cleared to play for the first time since March 9.

"The first shift for me was the toughest," Bolland said. "Getting out there after a month, just to get your mind and body and speed, getting my feet wet ... I wasn't thinking I'd get four points. I was hoping for the win. I got both."

Chicago's Patrick Sharp scored two power-play goals in a chippy final period that featured pushing, shoving, jawing and a fight between Vancouver's Kevin Bieksa and Chicago's Viktor Stalberg.

The Blackhawks got an offensive lift from their defencemen as Brian Campbell and Duncan Keith scored 17 seconds apart in a four-goal second period.

Bryan Bickell had a goal 1:43 into the game as Chicago finally solved Vancouver goalie Roberto Luongo, who was pulled in the final period after giving up six goals.

"I felt good. I was seeing the puck well so I'm just going to put it behind me. I mean, I'm not going to beat myself up over it," said Luongo, adding he experienced some minor cramping at the end of the first period.

Asked about the performance of Bolland — who played well against the Canucks last season — Luongo offered this:

"Obviously he helped a lot tonight, but he's not a guy who is going to change the series."

Michael Frolik also scored for the Hawks. Sami Salo and Daniel Sedin scored for the Canucks.

The opening-round series shifts back to Rogers Arena for Game 5 tomorrow night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Check out Rory Boylen's Hockey News column on Jannik Hansen's improved play @metronews.ca/vancouver.

Quoted

"I probably (have) never been more proud of a team and how they battled the circumstances."
NEW YORK COACH MIKE D'ANTONI, WHOSE KNICKS LOST 96-93 TO THE BOSTON CELTICS IN GAME 2 OF THEIR FIRST-ROUND PLAYOFF SERIES LAST NIGHT. THE KNICKS WERE WITHOUT POINT GUARD CHAUNCEY BILLUPS AND POWER FORWARD AMARE STOUDEMIRE DUE TO INJURY.

"We were lucky to win."
CELTICS COACH DOC RIVERS

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Engine

While the Aveo's standard 108-horsepower four-cylinder engine typifies those found in this class, the Sonic roars to life with a 135-horsepower 1.8-litre four-cylinder, or optional 138-horsepower turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder. Since both powerplants also see service in the larger and heavier Chevrolet Cruze sedan, you can expect the little Sonic to be a lively performer along with delivering respectable fuel economy.

Interior

Impressive design characteristics are featured in the Sonic's interior, where the dashboard and control panel exude an up-level quality rarely seen in the econo-car class.

An analog tachometer dominates the driver's field of vision, flanked by a rectangular screen displaying a digital speedometer, odometer and fuel gauge. Up-level models will offer two-tone dash and door-panel trim.

Body styling

There's obviously a lot more North American flavour built into the Sonic's design that now features a stubbier-looking nose with a more prominent grille and fancier headlight pods.

In back, the sedan appears somewhat similar to the outgoing Aveo sedan, while the stylish hatchback does a good job at hiding the rear door latches adjacent to the roof pillar. Also, the Sonic features fancy tail lamps that were apparently inspired by motorcycle headlights.

▶ From stem to stern, the Sonic is aggressively styled with beady eyeballs, embossed front-fender arches and a plunging beltline. However, the design cues are not that much different than other cars in the class such as the Mazda2 or the Ford Fiesta.

Chevrolet hoping for a Sonic boom

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

You might have noticed the sudden flurry of small-car launches announced by many of the world's automakers.

You might have also noticed the steadily rising pump prices attributed to a certain oil-producing-nation's strife.

This volatility is bad news for drivers of big, thirsty vehicles, but it's the perfect storm for General Motors, which will this fall launch the all-new Sonic series of sub-compacts.

The Sonic replaces the Korea-built Aveo that has served as the automaker's entry model since the 2004 model year. Like the Aveo, the Sonic will be offered in both sedan and mini-wagon formats.

However, unlike the Aveo, the Sonic will be constructed at GM's Orion, Mich. plant that was recently refitted to the tune of more than $500 million.

The Sonic's late-2011 arrival bolsters Chevy's focus on the svelte end of the passenger-car scale.

Prices will likely begin at about $14,500 (including delivery charges), possibly slightly more for the hatchback version.

That should make for a super-Sonic buy in a class where automakers appear to be spending a lot more care and attention to detail than they were when gas was cheap and bigger was better.

That's good news for buyers who are tired of fuel-price volatility and, up to now, had no real options.

5 drive

By comparison

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RETRO ELECTRO IS HOT ROD FIRST, ELECTRIC CAR SECOND

How do you maintain a cool, retro vibe with your vehicle fleet, when you're also trying to maintain a green vibe? Well, if you're the Steam Whistle Brewery, you create the Retro Electro — an all-electric 1958 Chevrolet Apache ½ ton pickup.

Retro Electro and the man behind it, Mike Kiraly, are usually tooling around the streets of Vancouver, checking in on Steam Whistle clients, but were in Toronto recently, to participate in last weekend's Green Living Show.

Kiraly let yours truly have a brief fling behind the wheel, which provoked a conflicted response. I didn't know whether to put my elbows out the window and light up a cigarette, or keep the windows up to conserve some electrical energy and compost the smoke.

Thankfully I don't smoke, so got over it quick, and just enjoyed the experience.

Not hard when you have 465 lb-ft of torque at your disposal. This is not an effete electric car, in the golf cart mode. It is a hot rod first, and an electric vehicle second. The Retro Electro launches like you would expect of something with that much grunt — aided by the absolutely linear torque curve of electric motors. And it does its thing in low volume — you only hear road noise and some gear whine.

And this is the "milder" version of Retro Electro. An earlier version, with lower gearing, was capable of smoking its tires in dragster-like fashion.

Said motor is an Azure Dynamics AC90 electric motor, which is often retrofitted in larger panel trucks.

It gets its juice from a very sophisticated lithium ion battery pack. It can be fully charged in eight hours on a 220V service, good for a range of about 150 kilometres.

To complete the green loop, Steam Whistle makes sure Retro Electro is always charged on renewable electricity from Bullfrog Power. In fact, the entire brewery only uses electricity from Bullfrog. Steam Whistle's other green initiatives include thicker beer bottles, which can be re-used more often, and running its delivery trucks with B20 bio fuel.

The electric drivetrain makes the vehicle about 500 pounds heavier than stock, and the batteries take up some cargo capacity, so it has lost some of its trucky usefulness, but is more than capable of fulfilling its mandate as a Steam Whistle work truck.

Just to make sure, I turn to Kiraly, who is riding shotgun, and ask him again, "You drive this every day, as part of your job?"

"Yeah," says Kiraly. "Pretty lucky guy, eh?"

Kiraly is also a guy with several facets to his personality. He spends half his workday as Steam Whistle's manager in B.C., and the other half as university professor teaching anatomy and physiology. He has several degrees, including a PhD in Endocrinology.

Now he's learned quite a lot putting this vehicle together for Steam Whistle. His teachers were an A-list of Vancouver-based experts, including Greg Murray of Electric Autosports and Trevor Stoker of Azure Dynamics.

He's ready to build another electric hot-rod. Judging by Retro Electro, he may be on to something.

Website

- For more on Retro Electro, check out steamwhistle.ca/retroelectro

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Electric power doesn't mean it's not a hot rod. Witness Steam Whistle's Retro Electro, which started life as 1958 Chevrolet Apache 1/2 ton pickup.

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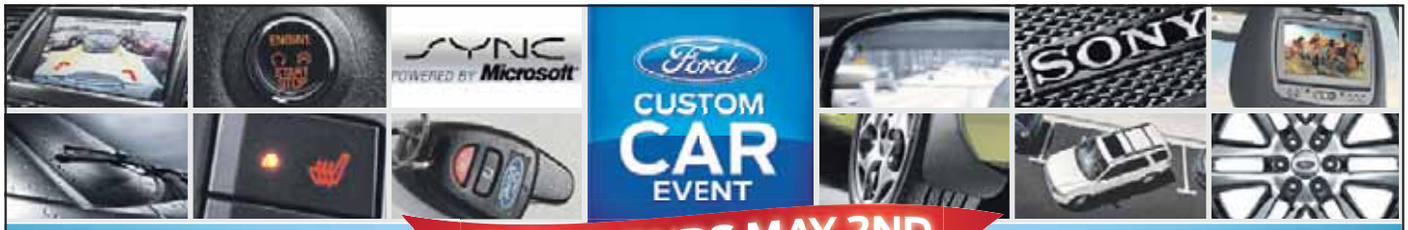

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WISE BUYERS, READ THE LEGAL COPY: Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. Factory order or dealer transfer may be required. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ◆Receive ($500/$1,000/$2,000/$2,500/$3,000/$3,500/$4,500) in Manufacturer Rebates with the purchase or lease of a new 2011 Fusion S / 2012 Mustang V6 (excluding Value Leader) / 2012 Mustang GT / Mustang V6 (excluding Value Leader) / Focus (excluding S), Fusion (excluding S), Fusion Hybrid / Mustang GT, Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding I4 Manual), Escape Hybrid / Expedition). All G1500 models are excluded. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Manufacturer Rebates are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. ‡ Offer valid from February 1, 2011 to May 2, 2011 (the "Program Period"). Receive a maximum of ($500)/ ($1000) worth of selected Ford custom accessories, factory installed options, or Customer Cash with the purchase or lease of a new 2011 Ford (Fiesta, Focus, Escape, 2012 Focus)/Fusion, Mustang (excluding GT 500), Taurus, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Expedition, E-Series, Transit Connect) (each an "Eligible Vehicle") during the Program Period (the "Offer"). Offer must be applied to the Eligible Vehicle. The Eligible Vehicle must be delivered or factory ordered during the Program Period. Taxes payable on the total price of the Eligible Vehicle (including accessories and factory options), before the Offer value is deducted. This Offer is subject to vehicle, accessory, and factory installed option availability. Dealer may sell for less. 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Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after any price adjustment is deducted. Some conditions and mileage restrictions of 64,000km over 48 months apply. A charge of 16 cents per km over mileage restrictions applies, plus applicable taxes. Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after any price adjustment is deducted. Offer includes $500 Custom Cash and freight and air tax of $1,550 and excludes licence, insurance, registration, PPSA, Fuel Fill Charge, administration fees and all other applicable taxes. *Receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2011 Ford (Fiesta (excluding S) / Edge (excluding SE))/Flex (excluding SE) models for a maximum of (36)/(48) months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $30,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 36/48 months, monthly payment is $833.33/$625, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $30,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. **Cash purchase a new 2011 Fiesta S Sedan/2011 Focus SE Sport/2011 Fusion S/2011 Escape XLT FWD manual for $13,949/$15,499/$19,999/$20,999. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebate of $0/$3,000/$500/$0 deducted. Offers include $500/$500/$1,000/$500 Custom Cash and freight and air tax of $1,450/$1,550/$1,550/$1,550 but exclude variable charges of license, fuel fill charge, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ■Offer only valid from April 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with a Canadian Costco membership on or before March 31, 2011. Use this $1,000CDN Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of a new 2011/2012 Ford/Lincoln vehicle (excluding Fiesta, Focus, Ranger, Raptor, G1500, Mustang Boss 302 & Medium Truck) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). The new vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford/Lincoln dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, is subject to vehicle availability, and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford Motor Company of Canada at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. Offer is not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. †Estimated fuel consumption ratings for 2011 Escape FWD 2.5L I4 5-Speed Manual/2011 Fiesta 1.6L I4 5-Speed Manual/2011 Fusion S FWD 2.5L I4 6-Speed Manual/2011 Focus Sedan 2.0L I4 5-Speed Manual. Fuel consumption ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods and competitive information available at the time of posting. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading, and driving habits. #Based on R.L. Polk Canada, Inc. vehicle registrations data, YTD December 2010. Class is small utility. Class is intermediate sized cars.

Alluring luxury on a budget

Buick Allure provides comfortable ride, relatively good reliability Offers up several engine options

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
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TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

2005 Buick Allure CXS

Buick's volume-selling luxury model was called the Allure in Canada when it replaced the Regal and Century for the 2005 model year.

Elsewhere it was known as the LaCrosse — a word which many French Canadians know as an unfavourable slang with various meanings.

Whatever it was called, the Allure offered up value-priced luxury in typical Buick fashion. This was no Mercedes or BMW, but for not a whole lot of money, the Allure offered drivers plenty of space, comfort and relaxation.

Look for this sedan with several engine options and trim levels to match a variety of needs. CX and CXL were low and mid-range models, respectively, and powered by GM's staple 3.8-litre V6 engine. Top-line CXS models got a newer 3.6-litre, 240-horsepower mill. This was canned for 2008, and a 5.3-litre, 300-horsepower V8 became available on the high-performance Allure Super.

Four speed automatics and front-wheel drive were standard on all models.

What's the 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2005 to 2009 Buick Allure/LaCrosse
- **Vehicle Type:** Luxury Sedan

What Owners Like

Typically, Allure owners say decent levels of performance, relatively good fuel economy, comfort and styling drew them in for a test-drive, while a decent price and overall value helped seal the deal. Other owners note a safe and sturdy feel to the Allure's highway drive.

What Owners Hate

Some owners wish for a softer suspension, noting that the Allure doesn't "ride on a cloud" and transmits a fair bit of road feel back into the car. Ditto for road noise.

Other owners complain of tight rear-seat quarters, and wish for the enhanced performance and fuel economy that could have been provided by a six-speed automatic.

Common Issues

Hitting the road for a test-drive? Certain Allure models were affected by an issue with the intermediate shaft — a part related to the steering system.

Buick mechanics should be familiar with the issue if the model you're driving "pulls" to either side or makes any unwelcomed clunking or popping noises. A full check of the front end and brakes for premature part wear is also advised.

Have the model checked for coolant leaks, too. Some owners have reported a mysterious coolant leak on their Allures, which could be caused by bad engine gaskets or hoses used by the cooling system.

The Verdict

For luxury on a budget, the Allure seems to have delivered — just mind the front end and be weary of coolant leaks.

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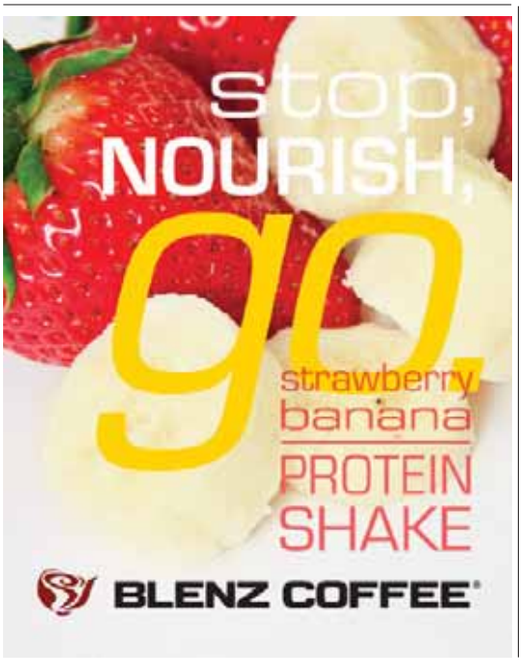

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The most fuel-efficient Compact Intelligent All-Wheel Drive vehicle in Canada. This is Fighting Carformity at its best. Its 150-hp 2.0L engine, 16" Aluminum Alloy Wheels, and European-tuned suspension will take you on any side street or highway life demands.

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Fight Carformity with a Compact SUV that has the off-road capabilities and practicality of an authentic SUV, along with on-road comfort and convenience. Grand Vitara's SmartPass™ Keyless Entry and Start system, Electronic Stability Program (ESP), Class-leading towing capacity[1], and fuel-efficient engine will make your journey more enjoyable. It's Suzuki's leading candidate to Fight Carformity off-road as well as on.

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CONSUMERS SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING: All offers include Delivery & Destination ($1,495 for Kizashi/$1,395 for SX4/$1,595 for Grand Vitara models) and a $399 Dealer Administration Fee. Offers exclude PPSA up to $72 (when financing), applicable taxes, license, registration and insurance. Vehicles may not be exactly as shown. These offers cannot be combined with any other offers and are subject to change without notice. Dealers may sell for less. See participating dealers for details. *Limited time finance offers available O.A.C. Special bi-weekly purchase finance offers are available on 2011 Kizashi SX iAWD Model 6B23V41 (Selling Price $30,189), 2011 SX4 Hatchback JX iAWD with manual transmission Model H3NB2J1 (Selling Price $21,629) and 2011 Grand Vitara JX 4WD automatic transmission Model L2TB5T1 (Selling Price $27,279) for a 72 month term. The bi-weekly 72 month payment interest rates are based on 2011 Kizashi SX iAWD @ 0.9%, 2011 SX4 Hatchback JX iAWD @ 0% and 2011 Grand Vitara JX 4WD @ 0% purchase financing, bi-weekly payments are $199/$139/$175 with $2,200/$1,900/$2,100 down payment. Cost of borrowing is $1,630/$0/$0. Offer valid until April 30, 2011. [1]When properly equipped.

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Prep your bike for springtime

Before you hit the highway, get your motorcycle ready

As our days slowly warm up, motorcycle owners are getting their wheels out of hibernation.

But before revving the engine, it's important that bikers take some time to get their motorcycles ready for the new season.

Preparing your bike is not only important from a maintenance perspective, but also to make sure that riding doesn't get too rough on the wallet.

"By asking the right questions and carefully bringing your bike out of storage, motorcycle owners will have a much greater chance of a safe and trouble-free 2011 motorcycle season," said Mauro Convertini, an insurance expert from Aviva Canada. Here's what he suggests:

Test your equipment
Reinstall the battery and examine all fluid levels. Check for cracked tires, broken parts or leaking oil. Set the tire pressures back to riding specs.

Take it slow
Your skills will be rusty and road surfaces will be different than your last ride. Sand and salt deposits on the edge and corners of the roads may be hazardous.

Install an anti-theft device
There are a range of anti-theft devices designed for motorcycles and some insurance companies will offer you a discount if you install an approved one.

FLICKR: ELVERTBARNES

▶ Prep before you ride.

Check your insurance
Follow up with your insurance broker to ensure you have comprehensive coverage. Ask about discounts for bikers with safe driving records. **NEWS CANADA**

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OK it's time to customize your truck YOUR TRUCK.
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TORQUE 434 lb-ft†
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FUEL ECONOMY
8.9L/100km hwy, 12.8L/100km city†††
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CONSUMERS BEST BUY DIGEST

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INCLUDES $8,750 CONSUMER CASH* AND FREIGHT.

2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport shown.‡

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- Class-exclusive 6-speed manual transmission
- **Nobody offers a better diesel engine warranty: 5 years/160,000 km**

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CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

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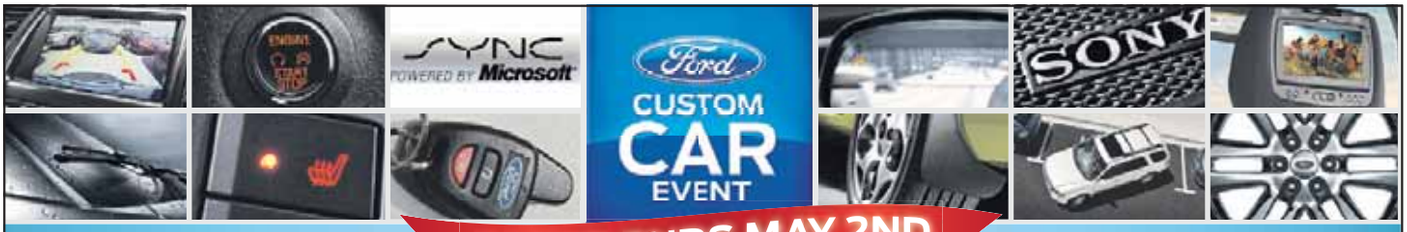
Wise customers read the fine print: •, °, ±, ††, § The Canada's Newest Showroom Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after April 1, 2011. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealers for complete details and conditions. • $26,498 Purchase Price applies to 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) only and includes $8,750 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating dealers for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealers may sell for less. ‡Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on most new 2010 and select 2011 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-dealer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your dealer for complete details. ± Variable Prime Rate financing up to 84 months is offered on approved credit on most new 2010 and 2011 vehicles to qualified retail customers through TD Financing Services, Royal Bank of Canada and Scotiabank. Bi-weekly payments shown are based on $0 down payment on approved credit. Down payment may be required on select vehicles. Offer may be increased, changed or withdrawn at any time without notice. Not available in Quebec, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon. See participating dealers for complete details. †† Customer Choice Financing: 1.99, 4.99 and 6.99% with terms of 36-, 48- and 60-month, respectively, on approved credit through TD Financing Services and Ally Credit Canada is available at participating dealers to qualified retail customers on select new 2010 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models (except Grand Caravan Cargo Van and Ram Chassis Cab) and select 2011 Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge and Ram models. The following terms apply to TD Financing Services contracts: (**Different contract terms apply to Ally Credit Canada offers. See your dealer for complete details.**) Vehicles are financed over a 36- 48- or 60-month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract's end, customers have the choice of returning their vehicle through a Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, Ram dealership with no further obligations (except payment of a $199 return fee and excess wear and tear, mileage and similar charges), financing the remaining balance for the rest of the amortization period at then-current standard rates or paying the residual balance in full. Some conditions apply. Customer Choice Financing offered by TD in Quebec is subject to different terms and conditions. All advertised Customer Choice Financing offers are TD offers. Example: 2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (24A+AGR+XFH) with a Purchase Price of $26,498 financed at 2.99% APR over 60 months with payments amortized over 92 months equals 130 bi-weekly payments of $149 and one final payment of $9,880.10 for a cost of borrowing of $2,771 and a total obligation of $29,269. Taxes, licence, insurance, registration, excess mileage and wear and tear charges, any dealer administration fees and other applicable fees and charges not included. Dealers may sell for less. See participating dealers for complete details. §2011 Ram 1500 Quad Cab Sport 4x2 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discounts: $31,645. Pricing includes freight ($1,400) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees and other applicable taxes. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealers may sell for less. °Based on 2010 market share gain. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under licence. ®SIRIUS and the dog logo are registered trademarks of SIRIUS Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. Customer Choice Financing is a trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.



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5.6L/100km hwy, 8.0L/100km city†
OWN IT TODAY FOR ONLY
$15,499‡‡
Offer includes **$3,000** Manufacturer's Rebate, **$500** custom cash and $1,550 freight & air tax.

2011 **FUSION** S
6.2L/100km hwy, 9.5L/100km city†
OWN IT TODAY FOR ONLY
$19,999‡‡
Offer includes **$500** Manufacturer's Rebate, **$1,000** custom cash and $1,550 freight & air tax.
CANADA'S BEST SELLING MIDSIZE SEDAN*

2011 **ESCAPE** XLT FWD I4
7.1L/100km hwy, 9.1L/100km city†
OWN IT TODAY FOR ONLY
$20,999‡‡
Offer includes **$500** custom cash and $1,550 freight & air tax.
OR RECEIVE
$500‡ CUSTOM CASH PLUS **$3,500**◆ MANUFACTURER'S REBATE
On most 2011 Escape models (excluding I4 manual)

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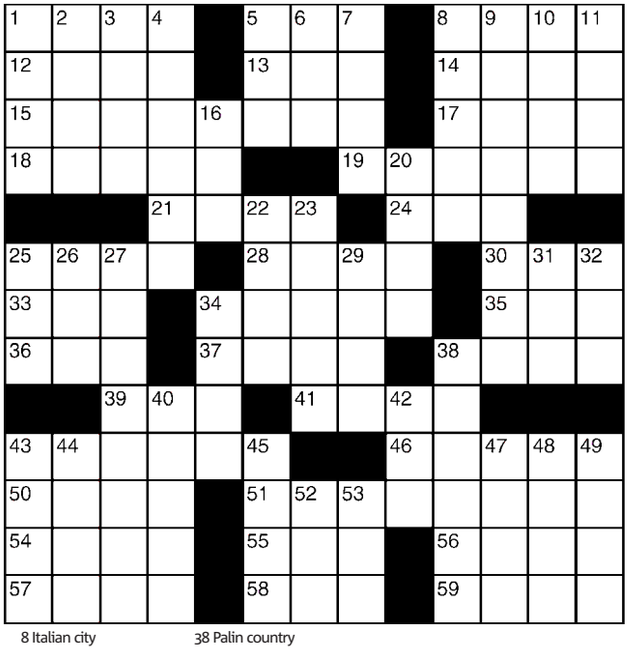
WISE BUYERS READ THE LEGAL COPY: Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. Factory order or dealer transfer may be required. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ◆Receive ($500/$1,000/$2,000/$2,500/$3,000/$3,500/$4,500) in Manufacturer Rebates with the purchase or lease of a new 2011 (Fusion S / 2012 Mustang V6 (excluding Value Leader) / 2012 Mustang GT / Mustang V6 (excluding Value Leader) / Focus (excluding S), Fusion (excluding S), Fusion Hybrid / Mustang GT, Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding I4 Manual), Escape Hybrid / Expedition). All GT500 models are excluded. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Manufacturer Rebates are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. ‡ Offer valid from February 1, 2011 to May 2, 2011 (the "Program Period"). Receive a maximum of ($500)/ ($1000) worth of selected Ford custom accessories, factory installed options, or Customer Cash with the purchase or lease of a new 2011 Ford (Fiesta, Focus, Escape, 2012 Focus)/(Fusion, Mustang (excluding GT 500), Taurus, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Expedition, E-Series, Transit Connect) (each an "Eligible Vehicle") during the Program Period (the "Offer"). Offer must be applied to the Eligible Vehicle. The Eligible Vehicle must be delivered or factory ordered during the Program Period. Taxes payable on the total price of the Eligible Vehicle (including accessories and factory options), before the Offer value is deducted. This Offer is subject to vehicle, accessory, and factory installed option availability. Dealer may sell for less. Only one (1) Offer may be applied toward the purchase or lease of each Eligible Vehicle. This Offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford of Canada at the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. This Offer is not combinable with CPA, GPC, Daily Rental Allowances or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Limited time offer. Offer may be cancelled at any time without notice. Some conditions apply. Offer available to residents of Canada only. See Dealer for details. ††Lease a new 2011 Fiesta SE 4-door with 2.99% lease annual percentage rate (LAPR) for up to 48 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Additional payments required. Monthly payment is $199, total lease obligation is $11,902, optional buyout is $6,530. Examples are based on $2,350 down payment or equivalent trade in. Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after any price adjustment is deducted. Some conditions and mileage restrictions of 64,000km over 48 months apply. A charge of 16 cents per km over mileage restrictions applies, plus applicable taxes. Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after any price adjustment is deducted. Offer includes $500 Custom Cash and freight and air tax of $1,550 and excludes license, insurance, registration, PPSA, Fuel Fill Charge, administration fees and all other applicable taxes. ‡‡Receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2011 Ford (Fiesta (excluding S) / Edge (excluding SE))/Flex (excluding SE) models for a maximum of (36)/(48) months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: $30,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 36/48 months, monthly payment is $833.33/$625, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $30,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. ***Cash purchase a new 2011 Fiesta S Sedan/2011 Focus SE Sport/2011 Fusion S/2011 Escape XLT FWD manual for $13,949/$15,499/$19,999/$20,999. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebate of $0/$3,000/$500/$0 deducted. Offers include $500/$500/$3,000/$500 Custom Cash and freight and air tax of $1,450/$1,550/$1,550/$1,550 but exclude variable charges of license, fuel fill charge, insurance, registration, PPSA, administration fees, any environmental charges or fees, and all applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. ■Offer only valid from April 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011 (the "Offer Period") to resident Canadians with a Canadian Costco membership on or before March 31, 2011. Use this $1,000CDN Costco member offer towards the purchase or lease of a new 2011/2012 Ford/Lincoln vehicle (excluding Fiesta, Focus, Ranger, Raptor, GT500, Mustang Boss 302 & Medium Truck) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). The new vehicle must be delivered and/or factory-ordered from your participating Ford/Lincoln dealer within the Offer Period. Offer is only valid at participating dealers, is subject to vehicle availability, and may be cancelled or changed at any time without notice. Only one (1) offer may be applied towards the purchase or lease of one (1) Eligible Vehicle, up to a maximum of two (2) separate Eligible Vehicle sales per Costco Membership Number. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with an eligible Costco member. This offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford Motor Company of Canada at either the time of factory order (if ordered within the Offer Period) or delivery, but not both. Offer is not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Applicable taxes calculated before $1,000CDN offer is deducted. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved. †Estimated fuel consumption ratings for 2011 Escape FWD 2.5L I4 5-Speed Manual/2011 Fiesta 1.6L I4 5-Speed Manual/2011 Fusion S FWD 2.5L I4 6-Speed Manual/2011 Focus Sedan 2.0L I4 5-Speed Manual. Fuel consumption ratings based on Transport Canada approved test methods and competitive information available at the time of posting. Actual fuel consumption may vary based on road conditions, vehicle loading, and driving habits. #Based on R.L. Polk Canada, Inc. vehicle registrations data, YTD December 2010. Class is small utility. Class is intermediate sized cars.

Crossword



Across

1 Postal deliveries
5 Condi-tions
8 H.S. juniors' hurdle
12 — dixit
13 Commo-tion
14 Heche or Hathaway
15 Winter weather occurrence
17 — -tat-tat
18 Old saying
19 Laundry repository
21 8-Across, e.g.
24 Taxi
25 Socialist Eugene
28 Layer
30 Curvy letter
33 Exist
34 Courage
35 "Eureka!"
36 Lingerie item
37 Mimic
38 From the start
39 "Platoon" site, for short
41 Transaction
43 Oft-tapped trees
46 Low operatic voice
50 "American —"
51 Directing principle
54 Red tag event
55 Whatever amount
56 Welles portrayal
57 Portent
58 Golf gizmo
59 Favorable votes

Down

1 Isinglass
2 Two peas in —
3 Actress Fisher
4 Sills
5 Writer Fleming
6 Rx overseer
7 Second-year student
8 Italian city
9 Long-pod veggie
10 Initial chip
11 Rend
16 Gender
20 Farm fraction
22 On
23 Hetero-geneous
25 Light touch
26 Mess up
27 Tall, thin type
29 Hibernia
31 That girl
32 Recent horror film franchise
34 Auntie of Broadway
38 Palin country
40 "Annie Hall" director
42 Honest politician
43 Soybean paste
44 Leading man?
45 Lovers' quarrel
47 Remain
48 Logical
49 Raw rocks
52 Indivisible
53 Caustic solution

▶ Yesterday's answer

P	E	R	M			S	E	E		S	T	U	D
A	R	E	A			P	A	N		C	A	N	E
L	A	S	T	W	O	R	D			R	U	D	E
			T	I	T		O	R	A	T	O	R	
R	A	V	E	N			D	R	A	W			
A	L	A	R			F	A	S	T	L	A	N	E
S	I	N		S	A	F	E	S			G	O	V
P	A	S	T	L	I	F	E		R	A	G	E	
			H	U	E	Y		A	A	R	O	N	
A	S	S	I	G	N		E	N	D				
F	E	A	R		C	A	S	T	I	R	O	N	
R	E	N	T		E	S	P		A	U	T	O	
O	R	G	Y		S	K	Y		L	E	T	S	

Sudoku

	3				8			
6			3	9		8	1	
4		8					5	
	5	9		2				
			5		7			
				8		2	7	
	7					5		9
	8	6		1	5			4
			2				3	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

V.Q.
yeobo~ you're the most amazing, beautiful, wonderful person i ever met ~ looking forward to our upcoming day together :D p.s. i love you :) <3
A.N.

mavis
*boo mavis... wanna send this to you and muwah & hugs.. have fun ok! *winks**
FROM ROMAN

DriverBoy
Whether we are laughing and giggling at home, or smirking through text... You are always my # 1 best friend and I'll love you forever :) **FROM INFINITY56**

Today 10°/3° Showers 40%
Thursday 11°/4° Mainly sunny
The Weather Network You have voted us #1 for best forecasts on TV. Thank you Canada!
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You may be tempted to go on a spree but you should keep your wallet in your pocket.
♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Start looking ahead to all the glorious things coming your way.
♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Look for the good in what other people do, and praise them for it at every chance.
♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You've been too caught up in your work of late. It's time to take a less demanding path.
♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 An issue that has been causing you pain can easily be dealt with today.
♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Get away from your usual environment. Do something different and exciting.
♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Family and friends will do whatever they can to help you out of a tricky situation today.
♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Relationship misunderstandings are a fact of life. It is how you deal with them that matters.
♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 If someone makes you an offer that requires a lot of effort, turn it down. You'll survive.
♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 What's your number one dream? Make it your priority.
♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 If you want to persuade people, you will need to appeal to them on an emotional level.
♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. If you're holding back from letting others know what you believe, stop it. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

MARK DUNCAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VADIM GHIRDA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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2011 ACCENT L SPORT 3DR

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

GL Sport model shown

OWN IT $83† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS AND NO DOWN PAYMENT

ACCENT L SPORT 3DR 5-SPEED. DELERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2011 ELANTRA TOURING

HIGHWAY 6.5L/100 KM – 43 MPG▼

GLS Sport model shown

OWN IT $91† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS AND NO DOWN PAYMENT

ELANTRA TOURING L 5-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2011 SONATA

2010 BEST-SELLING MID-SIZE IMPORT SEDAN IN CANADA^^

HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM – 50 MPG▼

Limited model shown

OWN IT $134† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS AND NO DOWN PAYMENT

SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

2011 TUCSON

AJAC'S BEST NEW SUV/CUV UNDER $35K

HIGHWAY 6.5L/100 KM – 43 MPG▼

Limited model shown

OWN IT $140† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS AND NO DOWN PAYMENT

TUCSON L 5-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

Limited model shown

2011 SANTA FE

2010 BEST-SELLING IMPORT SUV IN CANADA^^

HIGHWAY 7.2L/100 KM – 39 MPG▼

OWN IT $142† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT WITH 0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS AND NO DOWN PAYMENT

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D#10977

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